

REMARKS

Claims 1-9, 11-13 and 15-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 21 are amended. Reconsideration of the present application based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representative by Examiner Vu at the personal interview held April 20, are appreciated. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the personal interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

I. Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,525,741 to Chahal; claims 2-4, 6, 9 and 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chahal in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,925,875 to Frey; and claims 2-9, 11-13, 15-20 and 22-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Chahal in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,252,536 to Johnson. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

None of the applied art disclose either individually or in combination calibrating for pixel gain by multiplying a video signal output from an integrator, which can compensate for pixel error for both a video channel with an automatic gain control tab and a video channel other than a video channel covered with the automatic gain control tab, with a video signal inputted to a video channel other than the video channel covered with the automatic gain control tab and provided by a pixel offset process, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claim 21.

Similarly, none of the applied art disclose either individually or in combination calibrating for pixel offset by setting a correction range for pixel offset calibration within a predetermined range and defined by the pixels with the largest and smallest offset values, adjusting an uncalibrated video signal to be within the correction range, and providing an

offset level setpoint which can provide compensation for changes in at least temperature and time in a video, as recited in claim 2.

Instead, Chahal discloses a CCD activated video camera circuit for adjusting various CCD channel offset and gain values; two identical feedback loops used for offset and gain adjustment (Abstract); two identical gain and offset adjustment feedback loops, (col. 3, lines 24-25); a comparator which makes an individual comparison of the channel digital white/black signal with a preset gain/offset reference signal (col. 3, lines 29-31); and Channels A and B (col. 4, lines 7-9). Furthermore, Chahal discloses that Channel A represents the output of all the odd-numbered photosensor elements and Channel B represents the output of all the even-numbered elements on the CCD; that each of the channel outputs contain video signals representing approximately one-half of the graphical image of the object; and that the channels need to be combined by means of a demultiplexer to obtain the full image (col. 4, lines 7-14).

Frey discloses an apparatus and method for reducing fixed pattern noise in a planar array that includes an array of image responsive detectors (Abstract); a correction element that iteratively reduces fixed pattern noise; a reference image signal corresponding to an image signal adjusted for pixel gain error; a correction signal; an offset update signal; an update element; and an offset estimate gain circuit (col. 3, lines 27-49).

Johnson merely discloses a dynamic range enhancement system that receives input signals from an imager device connected to a correlated double sampling circuit for receiving the video signal from the CCD imaging device and a variable gain amplifier (Abstract).

As discussed above, none of the applied art either individually or in combination disclose calibrating for pixel gain by multiplying a video signal output from an integrator, which can compensate for pixel error for both a video channel with an automatic gain control tab and a video channel other than a video channel covered with the automatic gain control

tab, with a video signal inputted to a video channel other than the video channel covered with the automatic gain control tab and provided by a pixel offset process, as recited in claim 1, and similarly recited in claim 21.

Chahal merely discloses Channel A and Channel B; however, these channels represent output from either odd-numbered or even-numbered photosensor elements. Thus, Chahal fails to disclose either an integrator or that the video signal inputted to a video channel is provided by a pixel offset process.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted, that neither Frey nor Johnson make up for the deficiencies of Chahal.

Similarly, none of the applied art disclose calibrating for pixel offset by setting a correction range for pixel offset calibration within a predetermined range and defined by the pixels with the largest and smallest offset values, adjusting an uncalibrated video signal to be within the correction range, and providing an offset level set point which can provide compensation for changes in at least temperature and time in a video, as recited in claim 2.

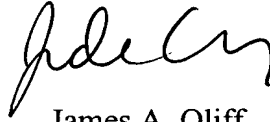
Thus, the applied art fails to disclose all of the features of the present invention. For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 21 are distinguishable over the applied art. Furthermore, those claims which depend from claims 1 and 21, are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features they recite. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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